Message Text

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2.1

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /056 W

----- 044421

R 100400Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2194

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

QMEMBASSY MANILA 4480

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC

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HONG KONG FOR RSS

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT MY

SUBJ: STUDENT PROTESTS AT MARA: CONFRONTATION

LOOMING?

REF: KUALA LUMPUR 0144 (DTG 090624Z JAN 76)

1. STUDENT PROTESTS AT MARA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY DOMINATE LOCAL PRESS, WHICH CLEARLY FOLLOWING GOM GUIDELINES, IS TREATING STUDENT PROTESTS OVER DISCIPLINARY CODES AS "AN EMBARRASSMENT" TO THE (MAJORITY) MALAY COMMUNITY PLAYING UP "RED HERRING" OF THREAT OF MOLESTATION OF GIRL STUDENTS BY AGITATORS. EDUCATION MINISTER DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED ORDERED ALL MIT STUDENTS TO VACATE THE SHAH ALAM CAMPUS TODAY (JAN 9) OR POLICE WOULD MOVE IN. MID-DAY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EDITION OF "MALAY MAIL" REPORTED ABOUT A THOUSAND

STUDENTS REMAINED ON THE CAMPUS, ABOUT THREE THOUSAND HAVING ALREADY DEPARTED FOR HOMES.

2. COMMENT: GOM HARD LINE ACCORDS WITH EARLIER HANDLING OF STUDENT DISSENT, AND PROBABLY SEEMS IN PART FROM GOM DISTRESS OVER "INGRATITUDE" SHOWN BY ETHNIC MALAY STUDENTS WHOSE EDUCATION, INCLUDING TRANSPOR-TATION COSTS, FULLY FUNDED BY GOVERNMENT. FOR THEIR PART. STUDENTS RESENT APPLICATION OF STANDARDS OF DRESS AND BEHAVIOR FROM CONSERVATIVE ISLAMIC MALAY PAST WHICH THEY WELL AWARE NOT FOLLOWED BY MANY SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF MEMBERS OF MALAY RULING CLASSES. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD STUDENTS ARE SEEKING REMOVAL OF MIT DIRECTOR DATUK LOKMAN MUSA AS BEING "UNSUITABLE" FOR THE POSITION. LOCAL POLITICAL FIGURE TOLD EMBOFFS AT LUNCHEON TODAY (JAN 9) DR. MAHATHIR PROBABLY WILL MEET WITH STUDENT DELEGATION LATER TODAY IN AN ATTEMPT TO END PROTEST WITHOUT VIOLENCE. IF THAT FAILS, AUTHORITIES LIKELY WILL MOVE TO FORCIBLY EVICT STUDENTS FROM PREMISES. IN ANY CASE, IT APPEARS MIT WILL NOT REOPEN FOR AT LEAST A MATTER OF WEEKS. UNDERHILL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, STUDENTS, UNIVERSITIES

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

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